

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:

WHEELER et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/189,159 )  
Filed: November 11, 1998 )  
For: *Account Authority Digital Signature* )  
Docket No.: 10399-29854 )

Via First Class Mail

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) STATEMENT AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

First Data Corporation, the Assignee for the above-identified U.S. Patent Application (hereinafter "Patent Application") and the invention disclosed therein, hereby states pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) that the Assignee is now the sole owner of the Patent Application to the exclusion of each inventor thereof.

The Assignee establishes its ownership by submission herewith of a copy of an Assignment from each inventor of the Patent Application. As the established owner of the Patent Application, the Assignee hereby invokes its right to conduct prosecution of the Patent Application to the exclusion of each named inventor.

The Assignee further hereby revokes any and all powers of attorney previously given in the Patent Application and appoints the Attorneys and Patent Agents of Morris Manning & Martin, L.L.P., associated with the below Customer Number (026702) in the records of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office and as updated from time to time, to prosecute the Patent Application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office connected therewith.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**



**26702**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

All correspondence in this case should be directed to the same Customer Number.

The Assignee hereby declares that no other person or entity is authorized to take any action before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office with respect to the Patent Application. The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to sign this statement on behalf of the Assignee.

First Data Corporation

By:

Henry M. Abelman

Henry M. Abelman  
Assistant Secretary

Date

8/5/2001